

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus, comprising:
a modem, for receiving from a first medium a first transport stream having disposed therein packets associated with a second transport stream,
5 said second transport stream packets being susceptible to timing errors;
a data control module, for adapting said second transport stream packets in a manner tending to reduce said timing errors, said data control module utilizing timing information recovered from at least one of said first transport stream and said second transport stream; and
10 a transport interface, for providing said packets associated with said second transport stream to a second transport medium.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a router, for routing transport packets from said modem to said data control module.
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3. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an interface module for transferring data between said data control module and a computing device, said interface module tending to induce said timing errors within said packets associated with said second transport stream, said data control module
20 operating to reduce timing errors induced by said interface device.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a back-end processing device, for receiving said packets associated with said second transport stream via said second medium.
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5. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a transport processor, for retrieving packetized elementary streams from said transport stream propagated through said second medium.
- 30 6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising at least one elementary stream processing device, for processing retrieved packetized elementary streams provided by said transport processor.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said transport processor and each of said at least one elementary stream processors is implemented by respective reduced instruction set (RISC) computing devices.

5 8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first transport stream comprises one of an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) or internet protocol (IP) transport stream, said second transport stream comprises one of an MPEG-1, MPEG-2, MPEG-4 and MPEG-7 transport stream.

10 9. A set top terminal (STT) having a front-end device for retrieving a first transport stream from an access network and delivery to a back-end device for processing audiovisual sub-streams included within said first transport stream to produce audiovisual signals suitable for presentation, said front-end device comprising:

15 a modem, for receiving said first transport stream from said access network, said first transport stream having disposed therein packets associated with a second transport stream, said second transport stream packets forming said audiovisual sub-streams and being susceptible to timing errors;

20 a data control module, for adapting said second transport stream packets in a manner tending to reduce said timing errors, said data control module utilizing timing information recovered from at least one of said first transport stream and said second transport stream; and

25 a transport interface, for providing said packets associated with said second transport stream to a second transport medium.

10. The STT of claim 9, wherein said front-end device further comprises a router, for routing transport packets from said modem to said data control module.

30 11. The STT of claim 9, wherein said front-end device further comprises an interface module for transporting data between said data control module and a computing device, said interface module tending to induce said timing errors within said packets associated with said second transport stream.

12. The STT of claim 9, wherein said first transport stream comprises one of an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) or internet protocol (IP) transport stream, and said second transport stream comprises one of an MPEG-1, MPEG-2, MPEG-4 and MPEG-7 transport stream.

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13. A method, comprising:

receiving, from a first medium, a first transport stream having disposed therein packets associated with a second transport stream, said first medium tending to impart jitter to said first transport stream;

10 extracting, from said first transport stream, those packets associated with said second transport stream;

adapting using timing information derived from at least one of said first and second transport streams said extracted packets in a manner tending to reduce said jitter; and

15 transmitting said adapted packets via a second medium.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said first transport stream corresponds to a first transport stream format and said second transport stream corresponds to a second transport stream format.

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15. The method of claim 14, wherein said first transport stream format comprises at least one of an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) format and an Internet protocol (IP) format.

25 16. The method of claim 14, wherein said second transport stream format comprises one of an MPEG1, MPEG2, MPEG4 and MPEG7 transport stream format.